

MARVEL

#5

ZAC GORMAN • WILL ROBSON • TAMRA BONVILLAIN

The Great Lakes Avengers



They used to be Avengers. They weren't very good at it and a bunch of them died. But maybe the world is finally ready for...

The Great Lakes Avengers

A super villain mob led by the nasty Nain Rouge is terrorizing Detroit, and Councilman Dick Snerd isn't lifting a finger to stop them. The Great Lakes Avengers tried to take on Nain Rouge at his bar, but busted up the place and got arrested instead. Now Flatman, Big Bertha, Doorman and their newest recruit Good Boy are banned from super-heroics--but that didn't stop them from finding out that Nain Rouge IS Councilman Dick Snerd, and it also didn't stop Good Boy from kind of accidentally almost killing him a little bit. (Oops.) Luckily, their intrepid lawyer Connie Ferrari is here to save the day!

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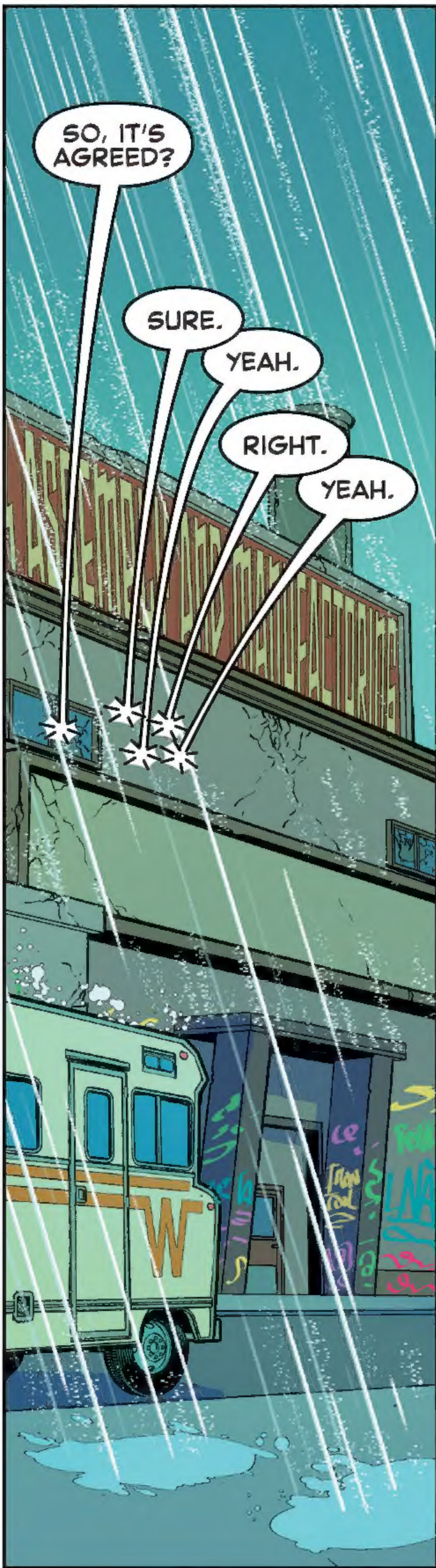
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SO, IT'S AGREED?

SURE.

YEAH.

RIGHT.

YEAH.



WE ALL FULLY UNDERSTAND HOW **SERIOUS** THIS IS, CORRECT? WHAT HAPPENED TO NAIN ROUGE CAN NEVER GO ANY FURTHER THAN THIS TABLE RIGHT HERE.

IF IT COMES OUT THAT YOU WERE OPERATING WHILE SUSPENDED, YOU'LL BE DEALING WITH S.H.I.E.L.D.-- AND I CAN **GUARANTEE** YOU IT WON'T BE PLEASANT.

AND IF I LOSE MY JOB FOR PROTECTING YOU IDIOTS, IT'LL BE EVEN **LESS** PLEASANT. I **PROMISE**.



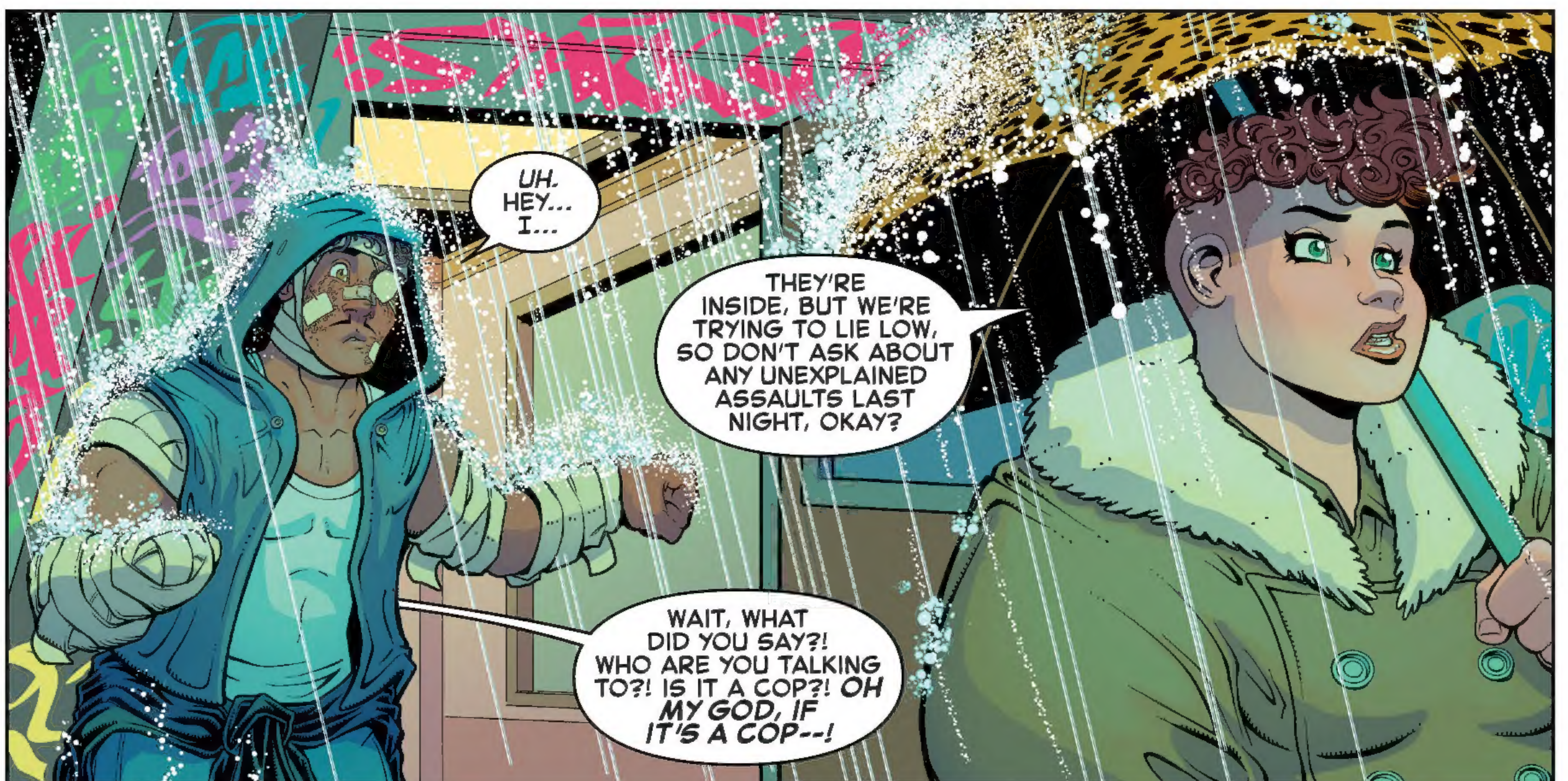
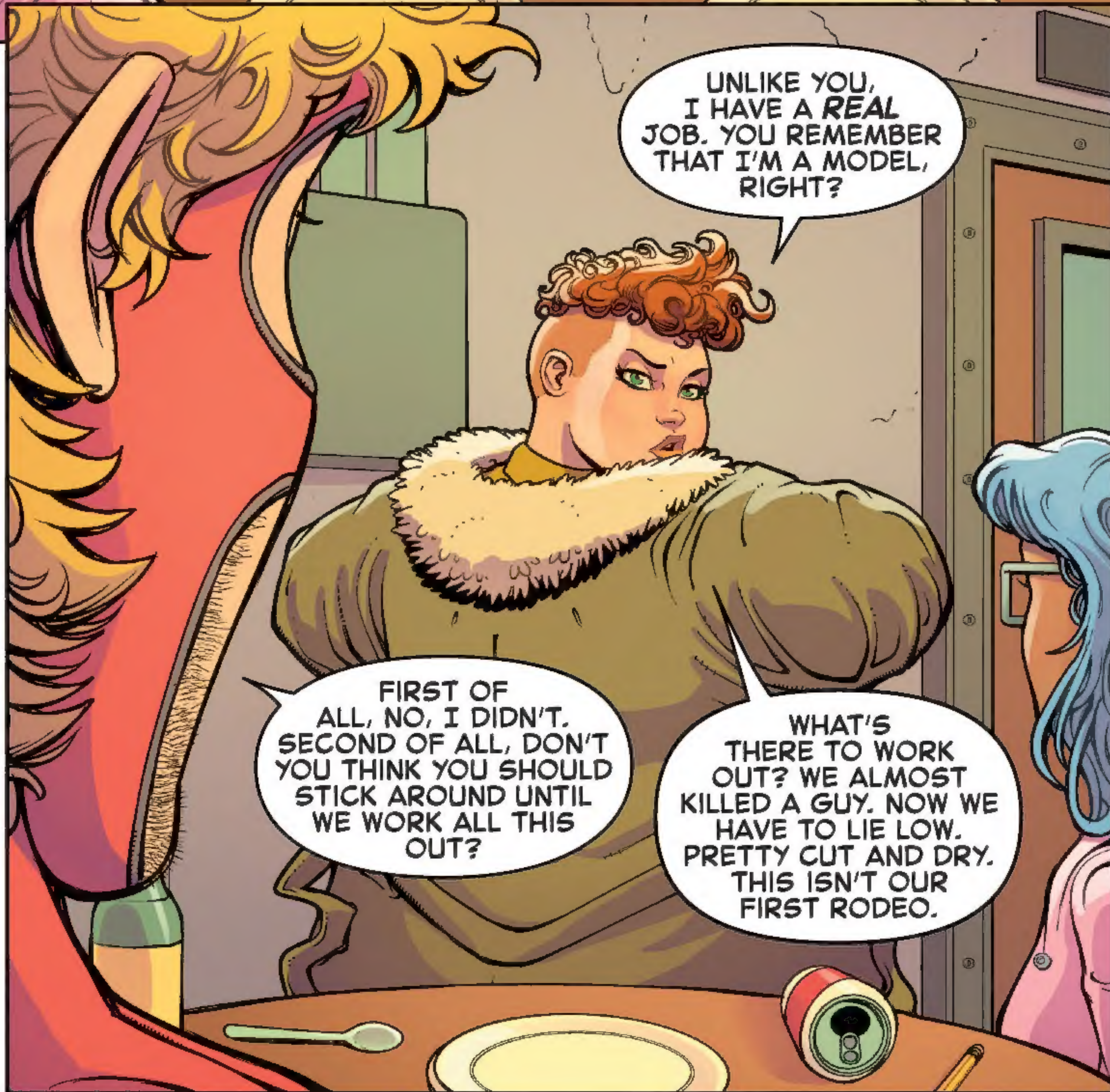
I'M HEADED BACK TO NEW YORK. TRY TO LIE LOW FOR A COUPLE DAYS.

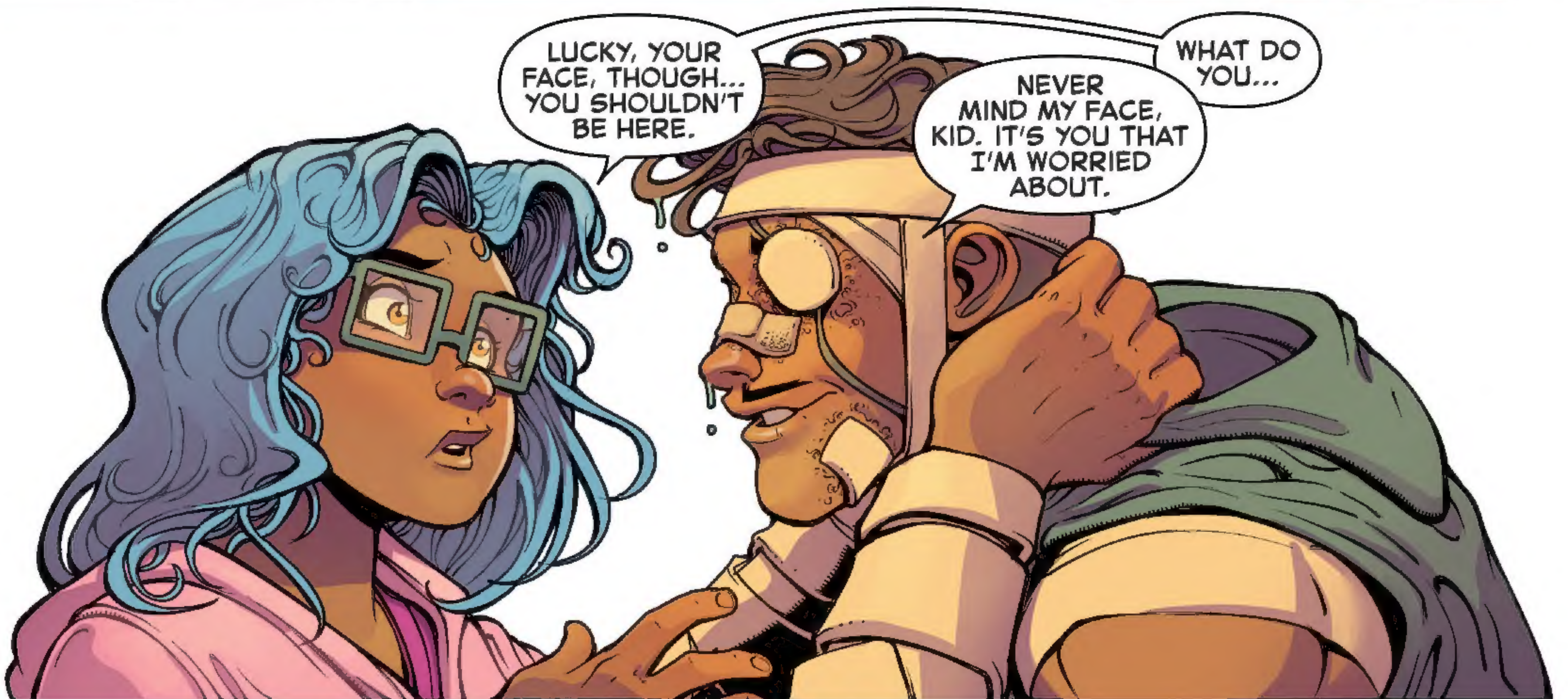
WHATEVER YOUR INSTINCTS SAY TO DO, DO THE OPPOSITE. **ESPECIALLY** YOU, GOOD.



SLAM!

YOU KNOW, SHE'S REALLY STARTING TO GROW ON ME.







I HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT CITY COUNCILMAN. EVERYBODY AT THE HOSPITAL COULDN'T SHUT UP ABOUT IT. SAID IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS MAULED BY AN ANIMAL OR SOMETHING.

IT GOT MY INTEREST SO I SNUCK INTO HIS ROOM TO CHECK IT OUT...



LUCKY, I DIDN'T...

DON'T LIE TO ME, KID.



I SAW HIS INJURIES WHEN I WAS GIVING THE GUY A TITO FREHLEY. I KNOW YOUR HANDWORK. YOU THINK I DON'T HAVE THOSE SAME SCARS ON MY LEG FROM WHEN WE USED TO WRESTLE AS KIDS?

GOOD, THIS IS SERIOUS. THIS GUY YOU ATTACKED IS A BIG DEAL. THEY'RE SAYING HE'S A POLITICIAN AND A SUPER VILLAIN...

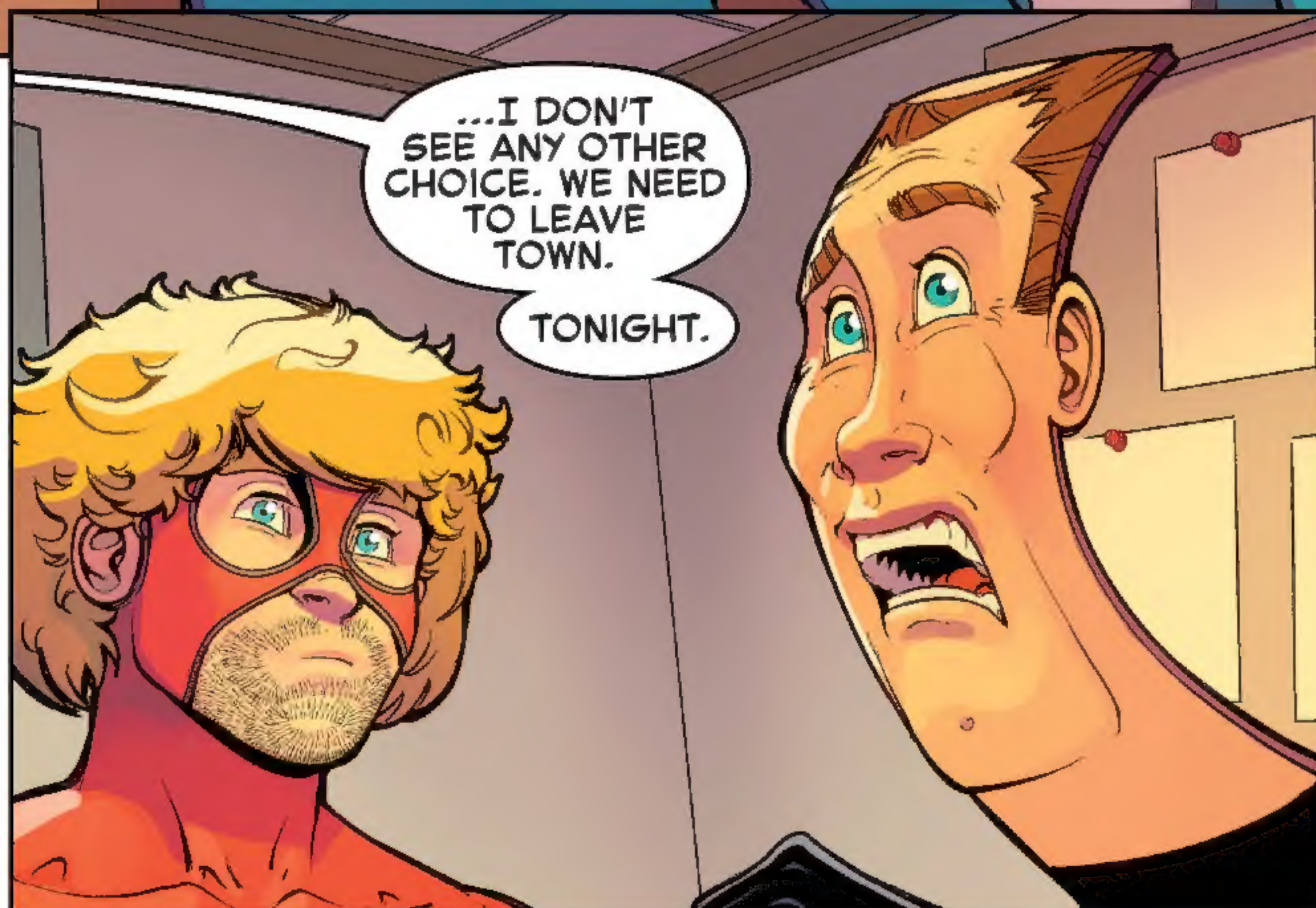
A TITO FREHLEY?

HE DESERVED IT, OKAY? I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO! HE'S THE ONE WHO ORDERED THAT GUY TO BURN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD DOWN! HE'S THE REASON... YOUR FACE...



IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE DID. YOU KNOW THAT. THIS ISN'T GOING TO JUST DISAPPEAR.

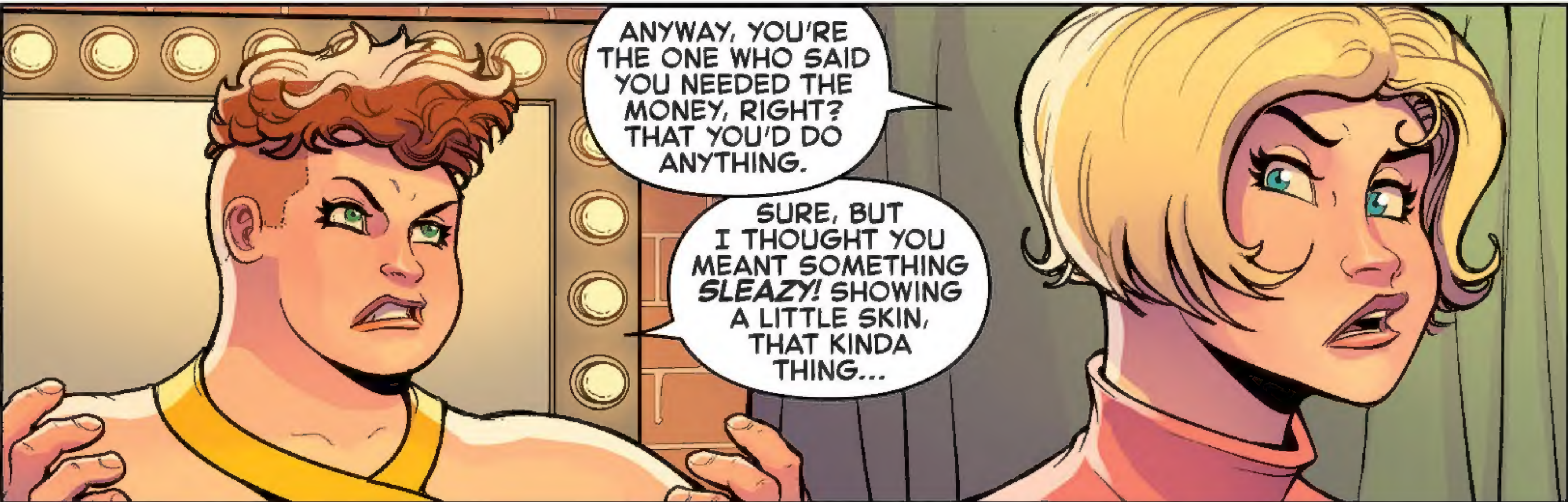
GOOD...

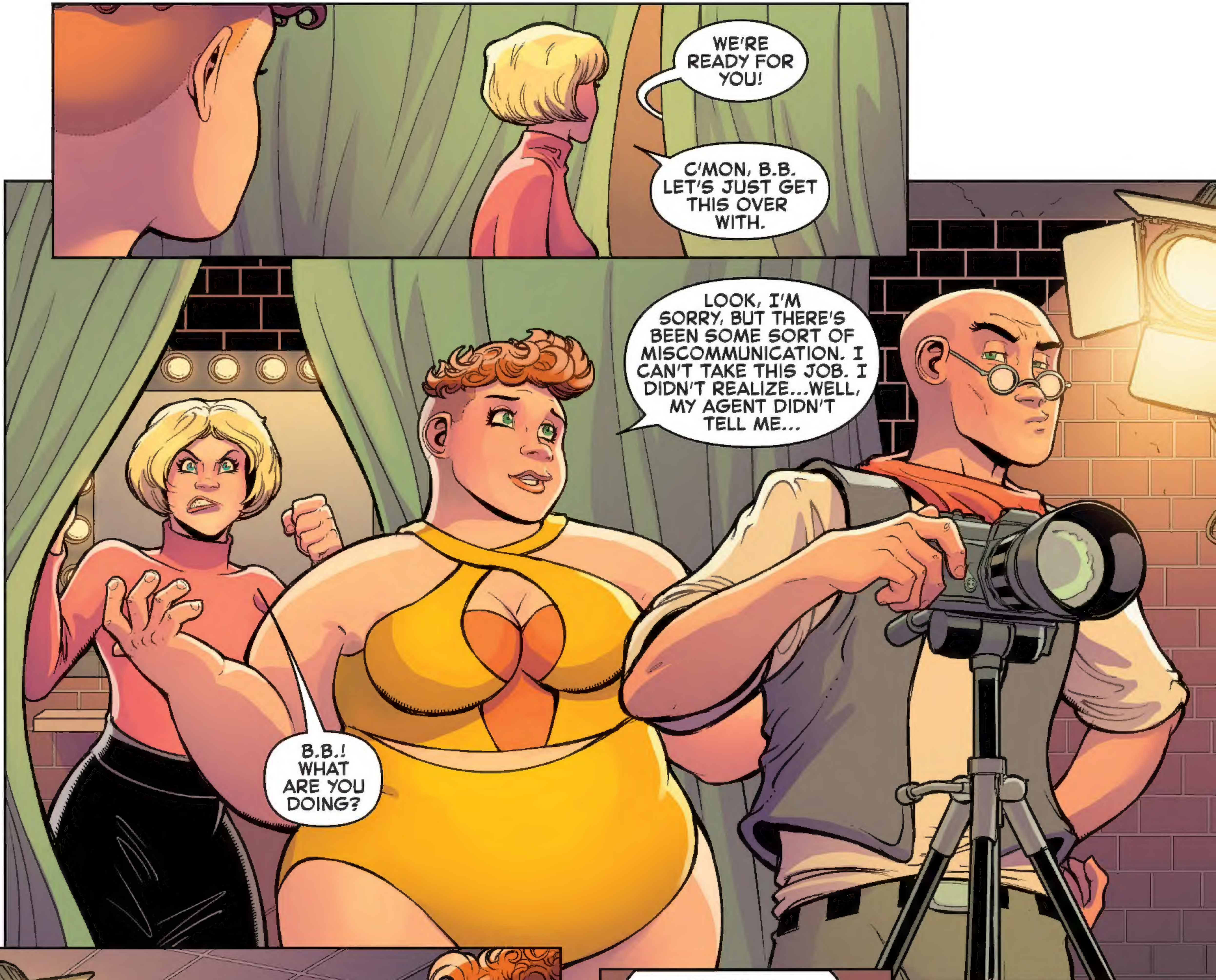


...I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER CHOICE. WE NEED TO LEAVE TOWN.

TONIGHT.

**CORKTOWN
MEATS.
CORKTOWN.
DETROIT.
MICHIGAN.
AMERICA.
EARTH.**





WE'RE
READY FOR
YOU!

C'MON, B.B.
LET'S JUST GET
THIS OVER
WITH.

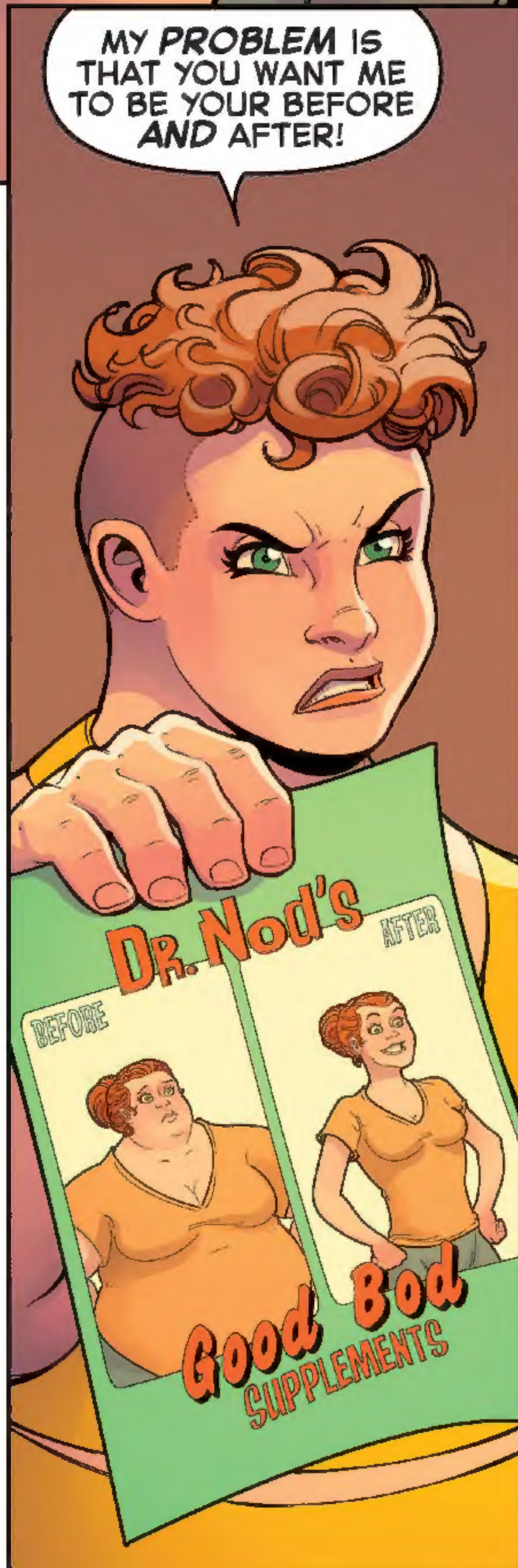
LOOK, I'M
SORRY, BUT THERE'S
BEEN SOME SORT OF
MISCOMMUNICATION. I
CAN'T TAKE THIS JOB. I
DIDN'T REALIZE...WELL,
MY AGENT DIDN'T
TELL ME...

B.B.!
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?



IS THERE
A PROBLEM...
WITH YOUR
POWERS?

WHAT? NO!
MY POWERS
ARE JUST
FINE!

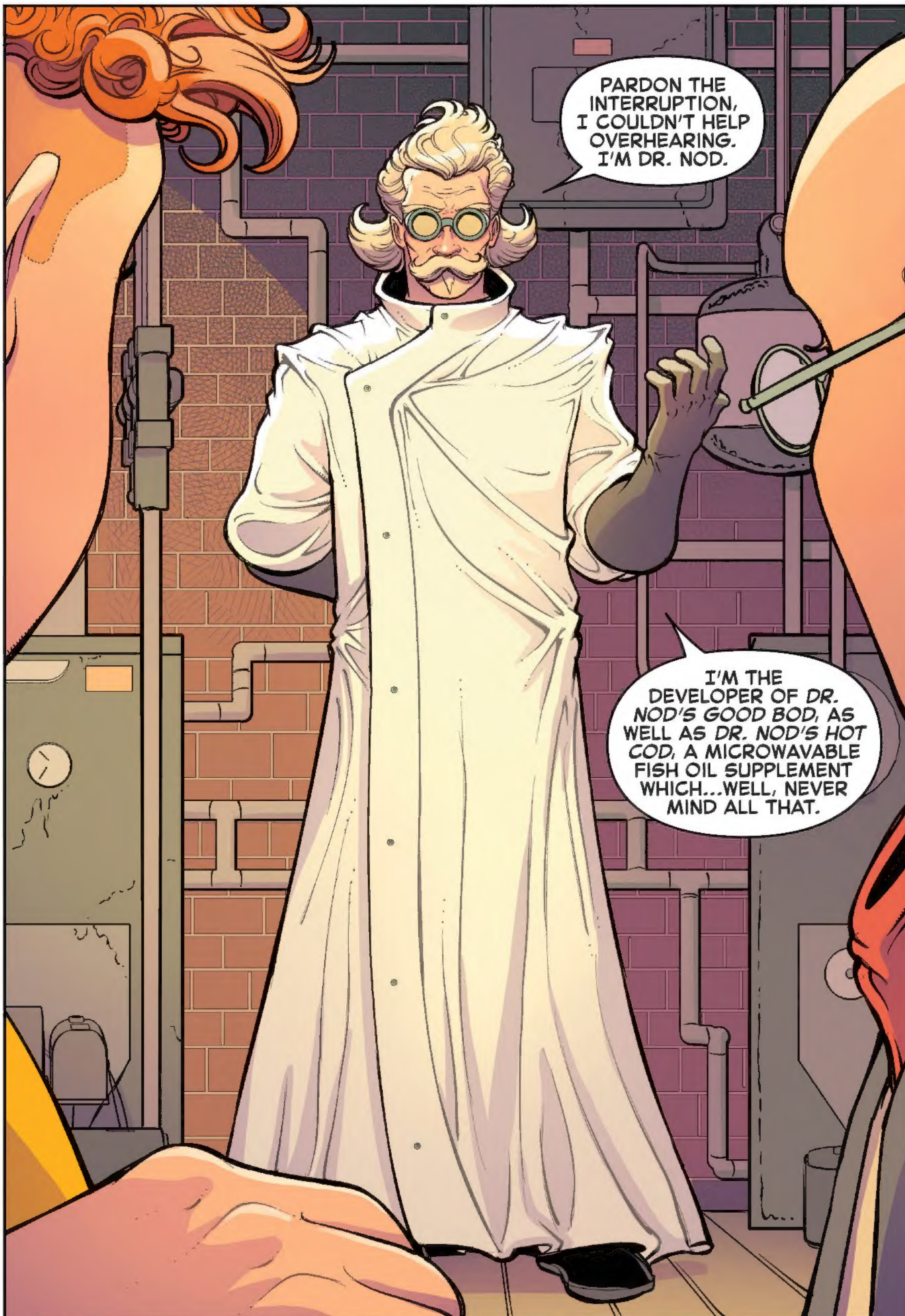


MY PROBLEM IS
THAT YOU WANT ME
TO BE YOUR BEFORE
AND AFTER!



AND? YOU
CAN CHANGE
SIZE, RIGHT? I
DON'T SEE THE
PROBLEM.

NEITHER
DO I.



PARDON THE INTERRUPTION, I COULDN'T HELP OVERHEARING. I'M DR. NOD.

I'M THE DEVELOPER OF DR. NOD'S GOOD BOD, AS WELL AS DR. NOD'S HOT COD, A MICROWAVABLE FISH OIL SUPPLEMENT WHICH...WELL, NEVER MIND ALL THAT.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR APPREHENSION, BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT MY GOOD BOD SUPPLEMENTS ARE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT LEGITIMATE.

THE ONLY REASON WE NEEDED TO SEEK OUT SOMEONE WITH YOUR--HOW DO I SAY--**UNIQUE ABILITIES** WAS A MATTER OF TIMING, NOTHING ELSE. WE NEED AN AD YESTERDAY ACCORDING TO THE PEOPLE BANKROLLING MY HUMBLE ENDEAVOR.

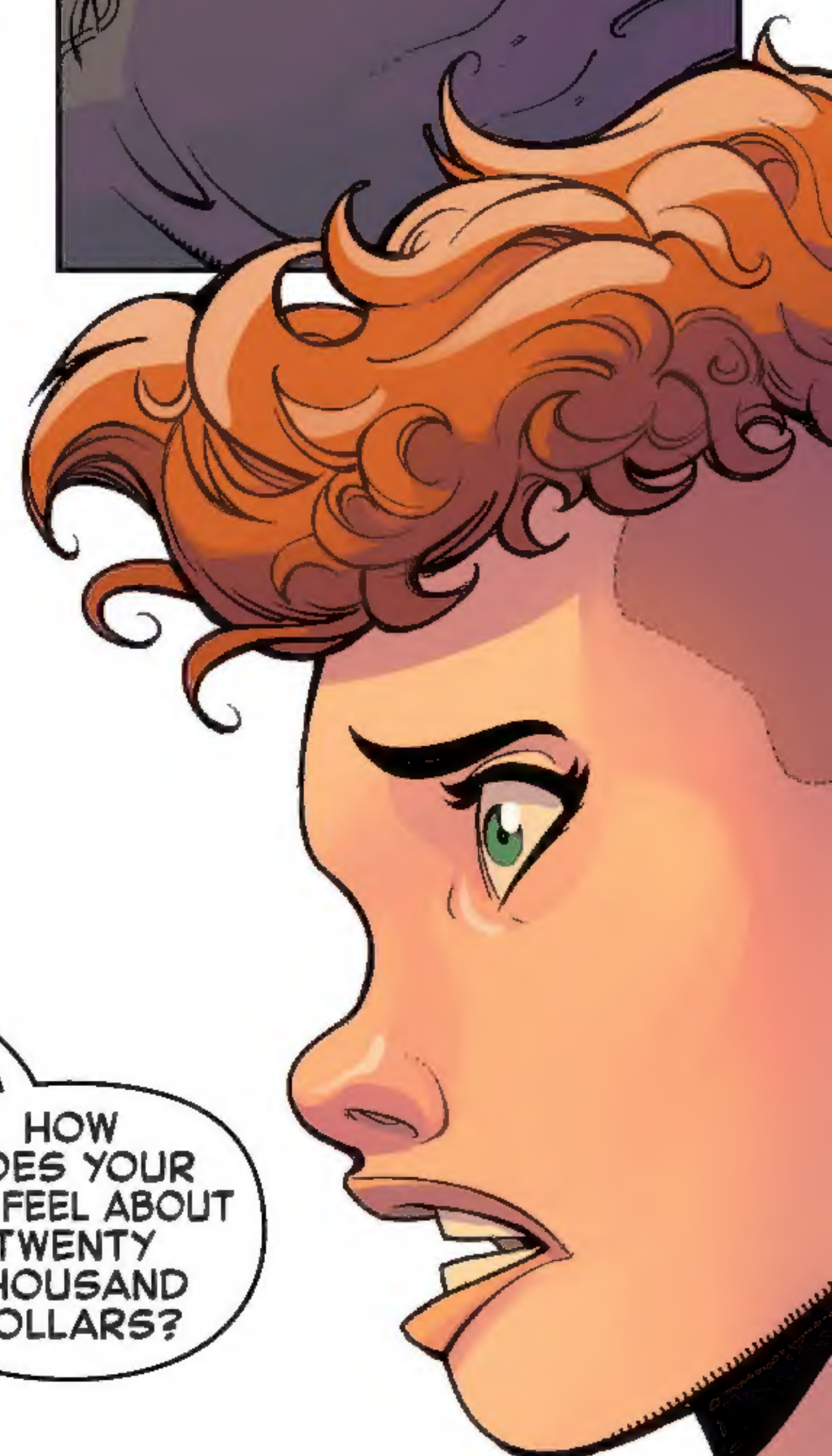
THE FACT THAT YOU'RE AN INCREDIBLE BEAUTY IS AN ADDED BONUS AS WELL, I SUPPOSE.



LOOK, DUDE. NO OFFENSE BUT THIS WHOLE THING JUST DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT TO ME. I'M SORRY, BUT I'M GONNA HAVE TO TRUST MY GUT ON THIS ONE.

YOU'RE A WOMAN OF SCRUPLES AND I ADMIRE THAT. ONE QUESTION, THOUGH...

HOW DOES YOUR GUT FEEL ABOUT TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS?





YOU'RE REALLY GOING? JUST LIKE THAT?

LUCKY'S RIGHT. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE IT'S TRACED BACK TO ME.

SNERD'S A JERK. A **POWERFUL** JERK. THE WORST KIND. HE'LL FIGURE OUT WHO ATTACKED HIM, AND THEN WHAT? ONCE THEY TRACE IT BACK TO ME, THEY'LL COME AFTER THE REST OF YOU, TOO.



SO WHAT? WE'RE SUPER HEROES! WE CAN PROTECT YOU!



COME ON... WE'VE BEEN A TEAM LESS THAN A WEEK AND WE'VE ALREADY BEEN ARRESTED AND NEARLY KICKED OUT OF THE AVENGERS. WE'RE NOT A GOOD TEAM.

YOU'RE RIGHT. WE'RE A BAD TEAM.

SOMEBODY ONLINE ONCE CALLED US AMERICA'S ALPHA FLIGHT.



THAT'S NOT SO BAD.

I KNOW. IT WAS MEANT AS A COMPLIMENT.



LOOK, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.



I'M SORRY,
GOOD BOY. I
FAILED. I SHOULD
NEVER HAVE TRIED
TO BE LEADER. I'M
NOT CUT OUT
FOR IT.

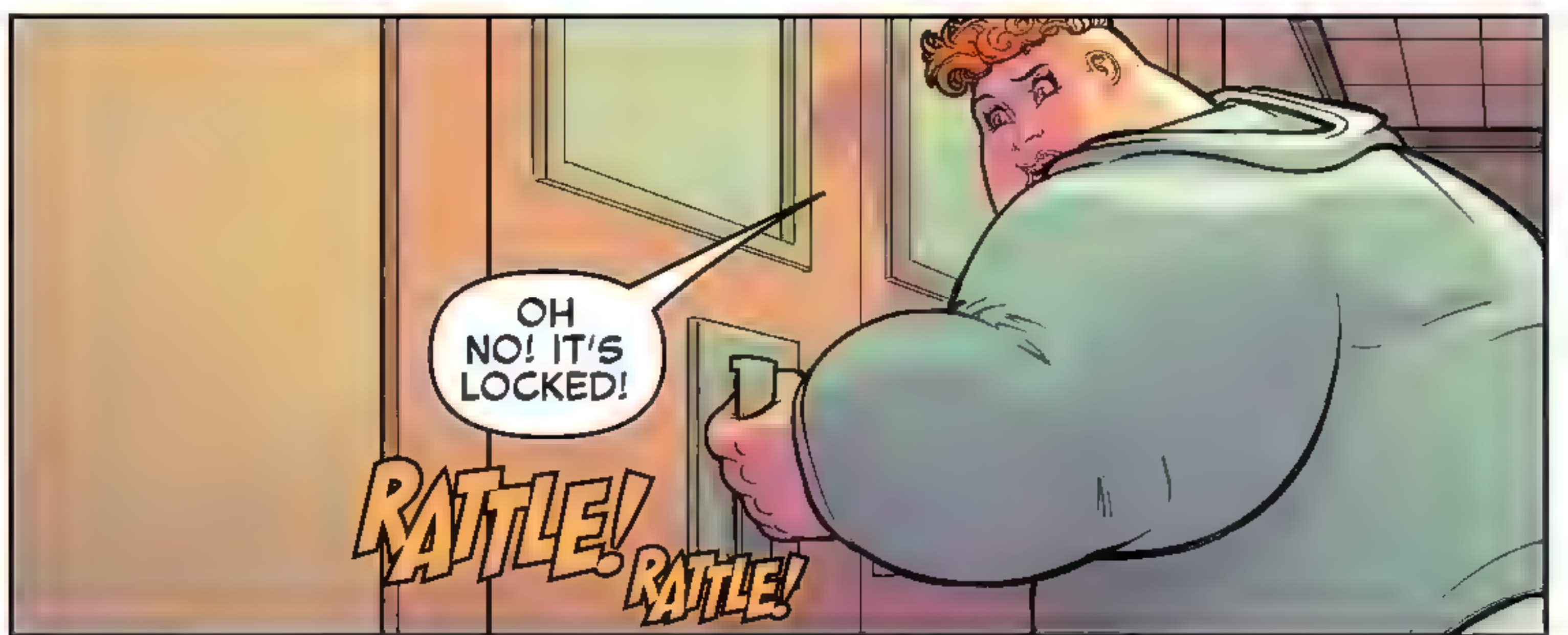
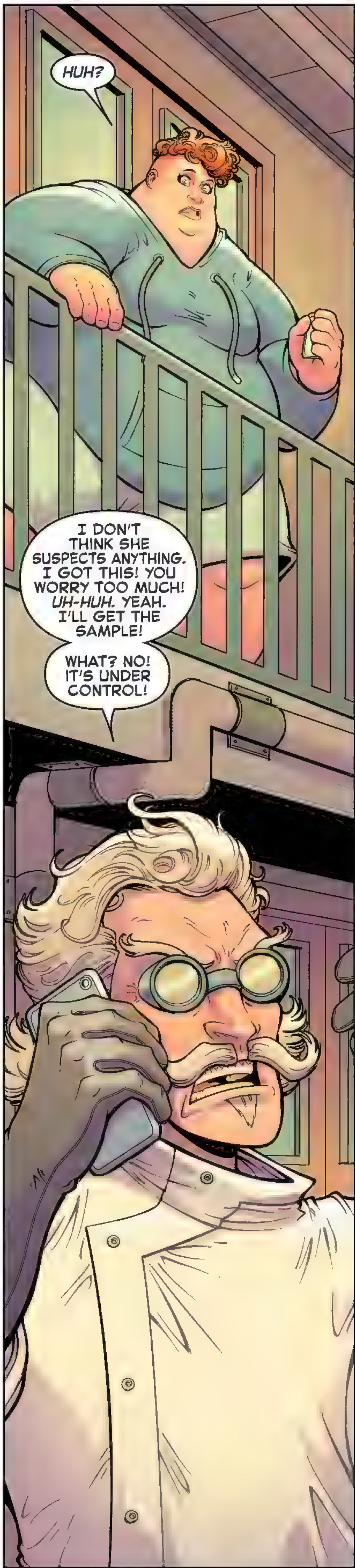
DON'T SAY
THAT. I READ
ALL ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED TO THE NEW
RECRUITS UNDER MR.
IMMORTAL'S TIME
AS LEADER...

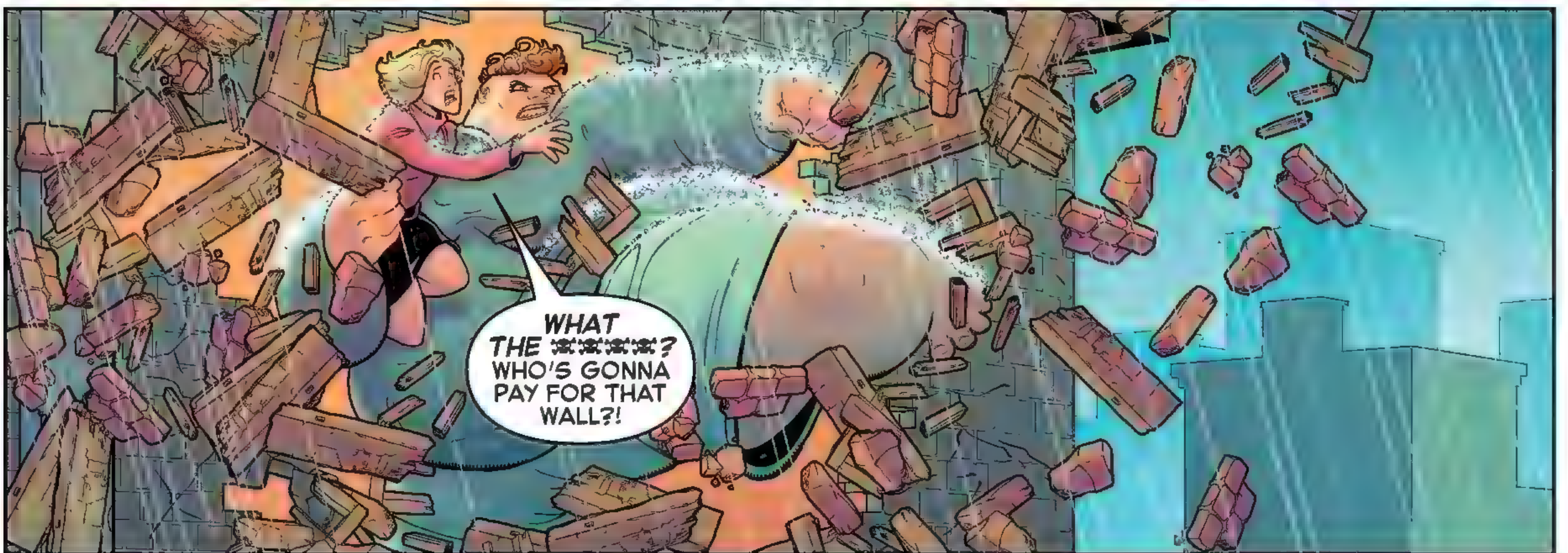
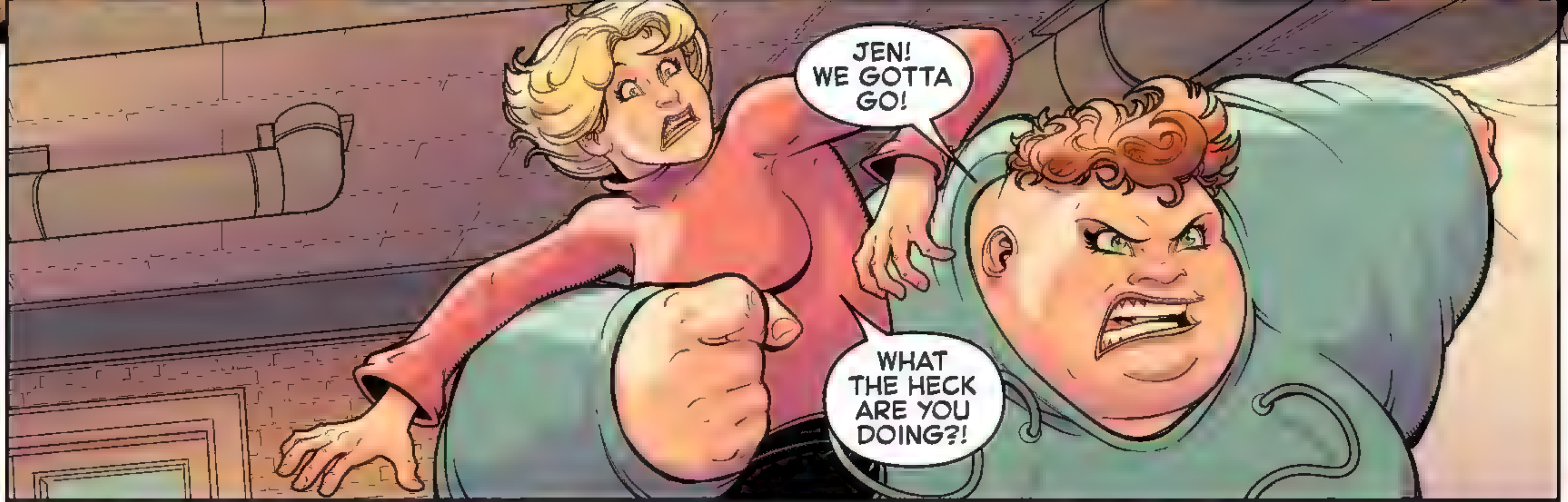


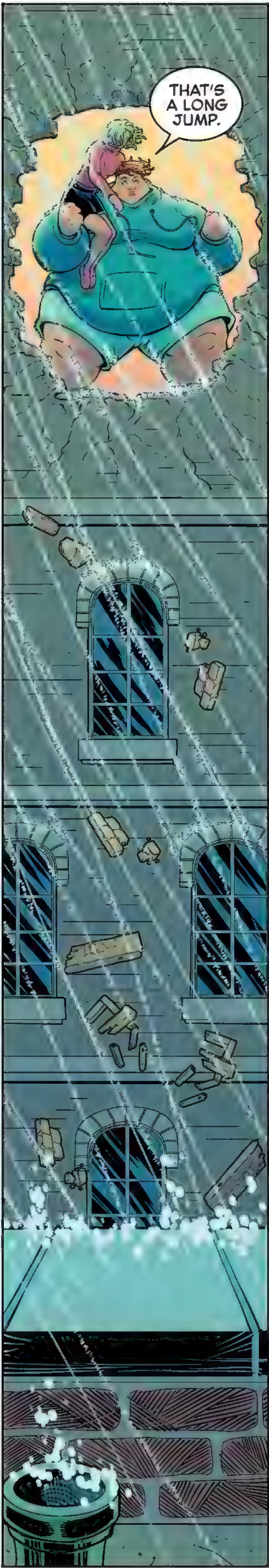
LOOK ON
THE BRIGHT
SIDE. AT LEAST
I'M STILL
ALIVE.



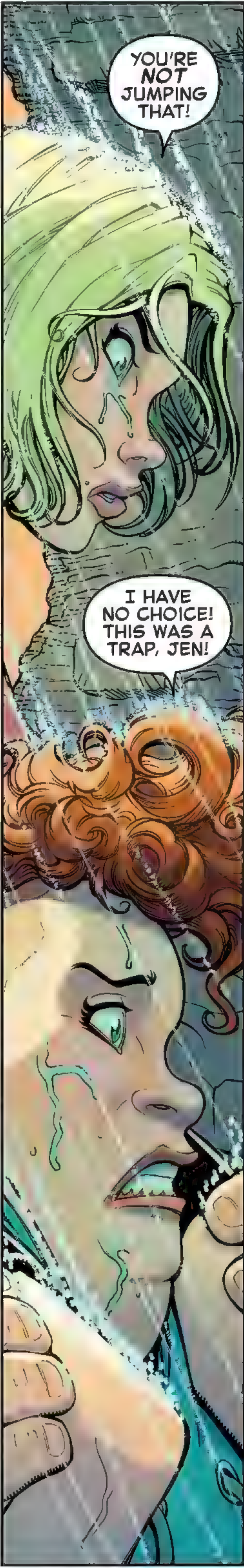








THAT'S A LONG JUMP.



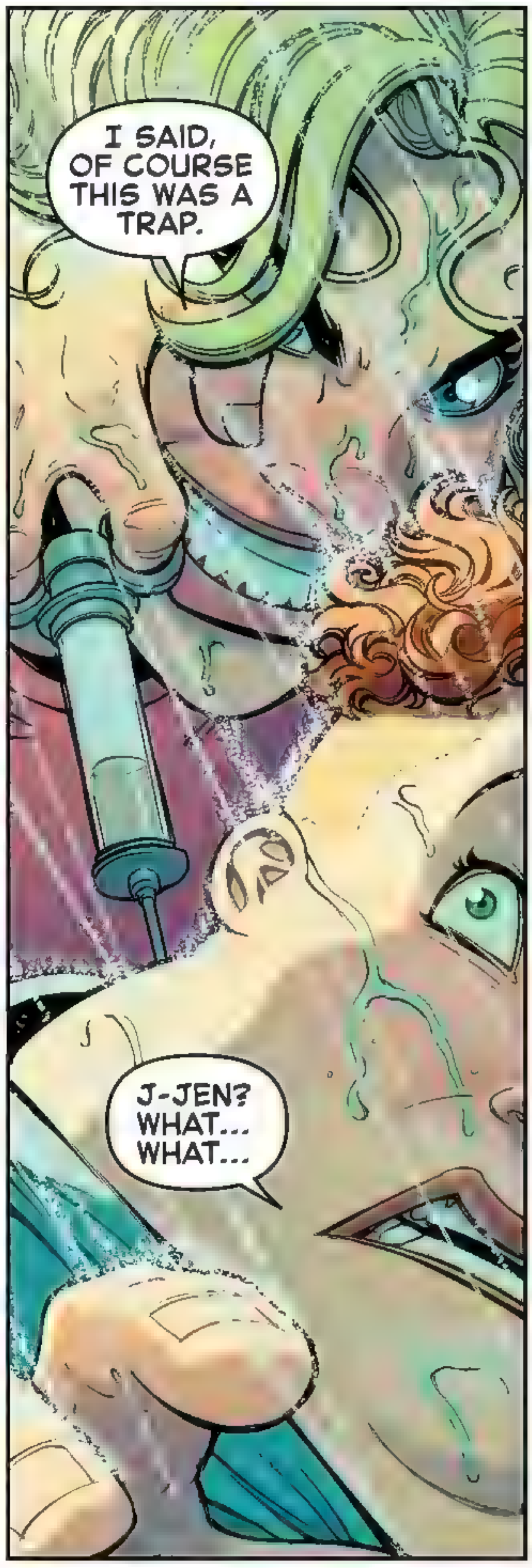
YOU'RE NOT JUMPING THAT!

I HAVE NO CHOICE! THIS WAS A TRAP, JEN!



OH MY GOD, IS THAT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT? OF COURSE THIS WAS A TRAP!

WHAT?



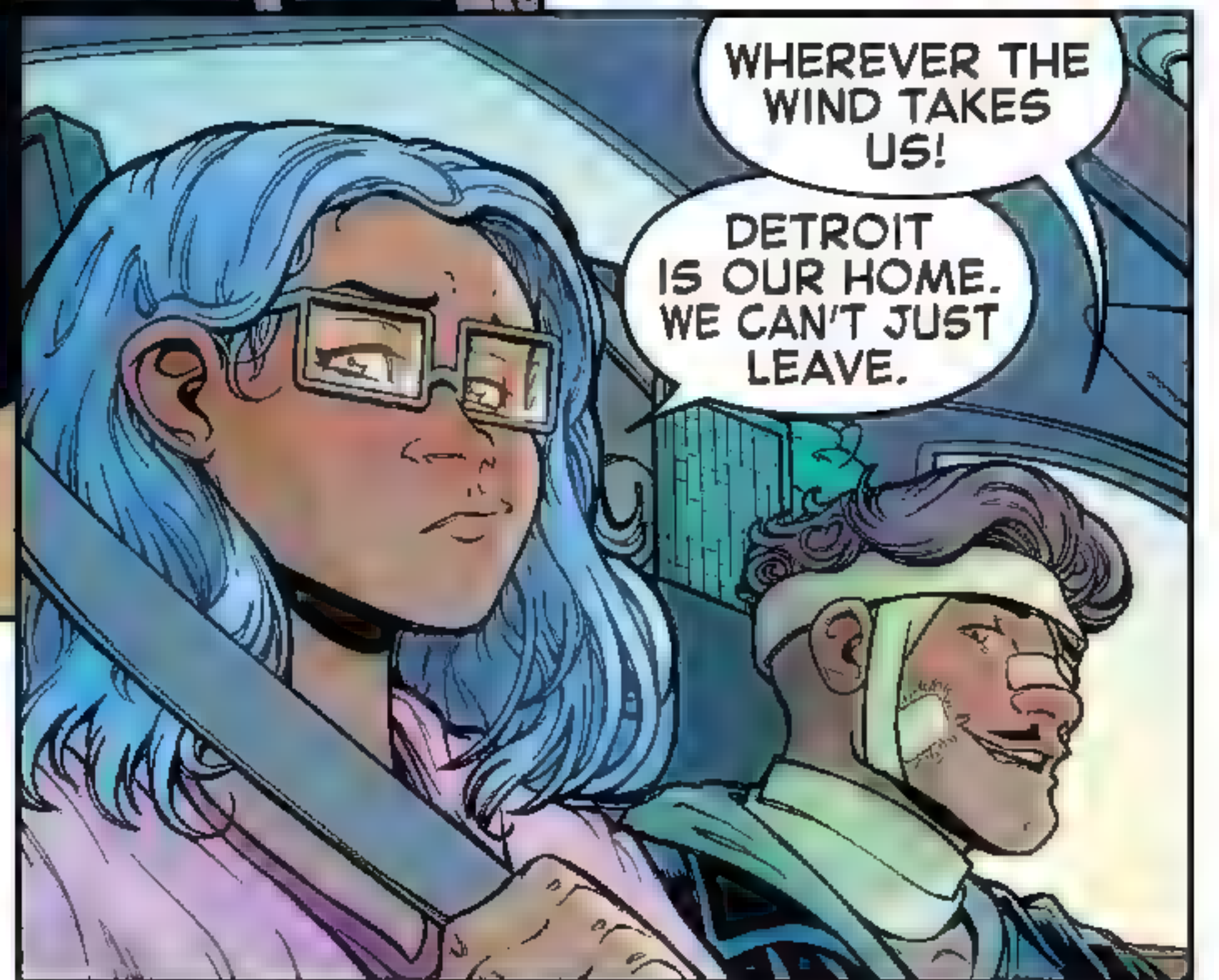
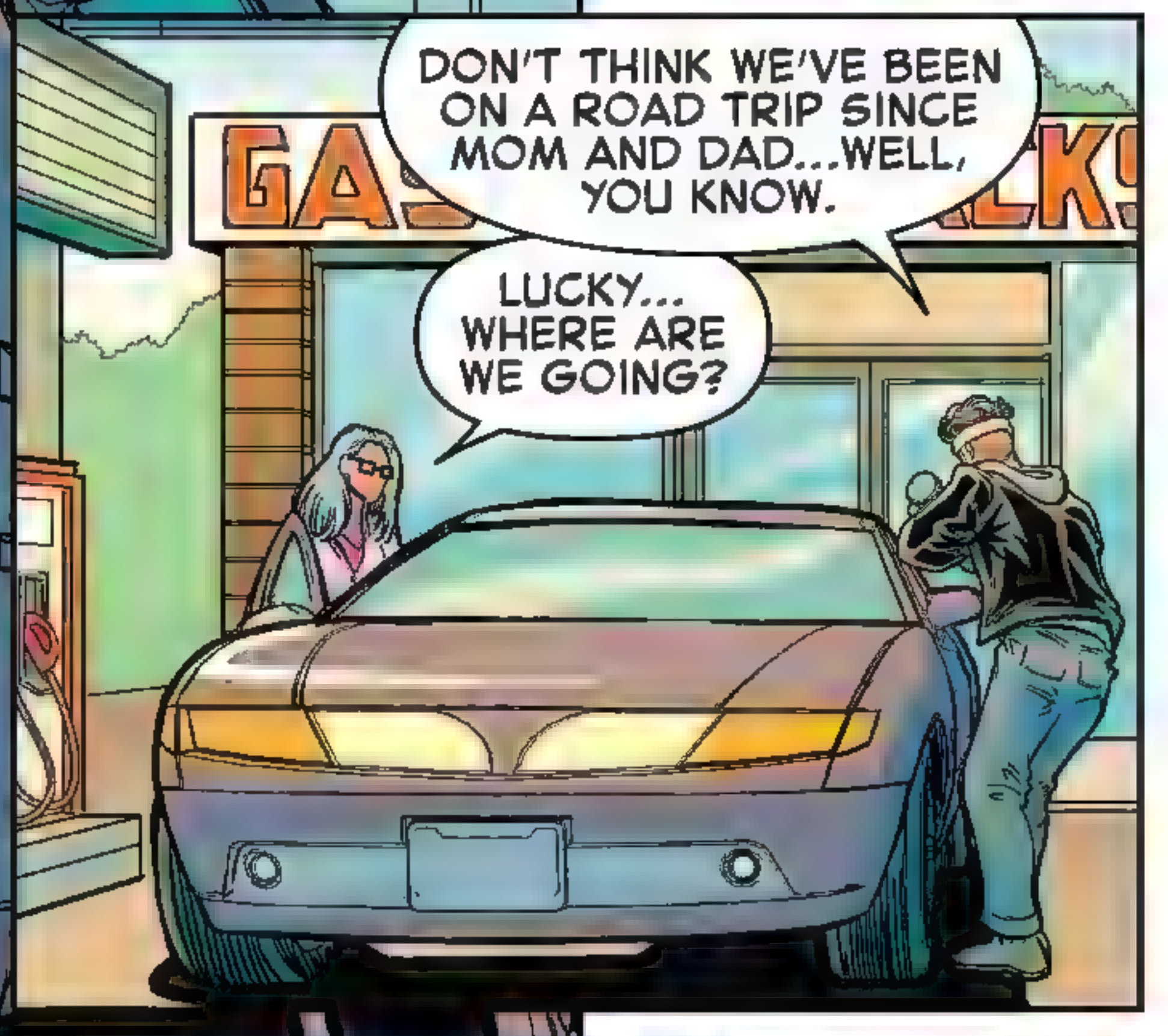
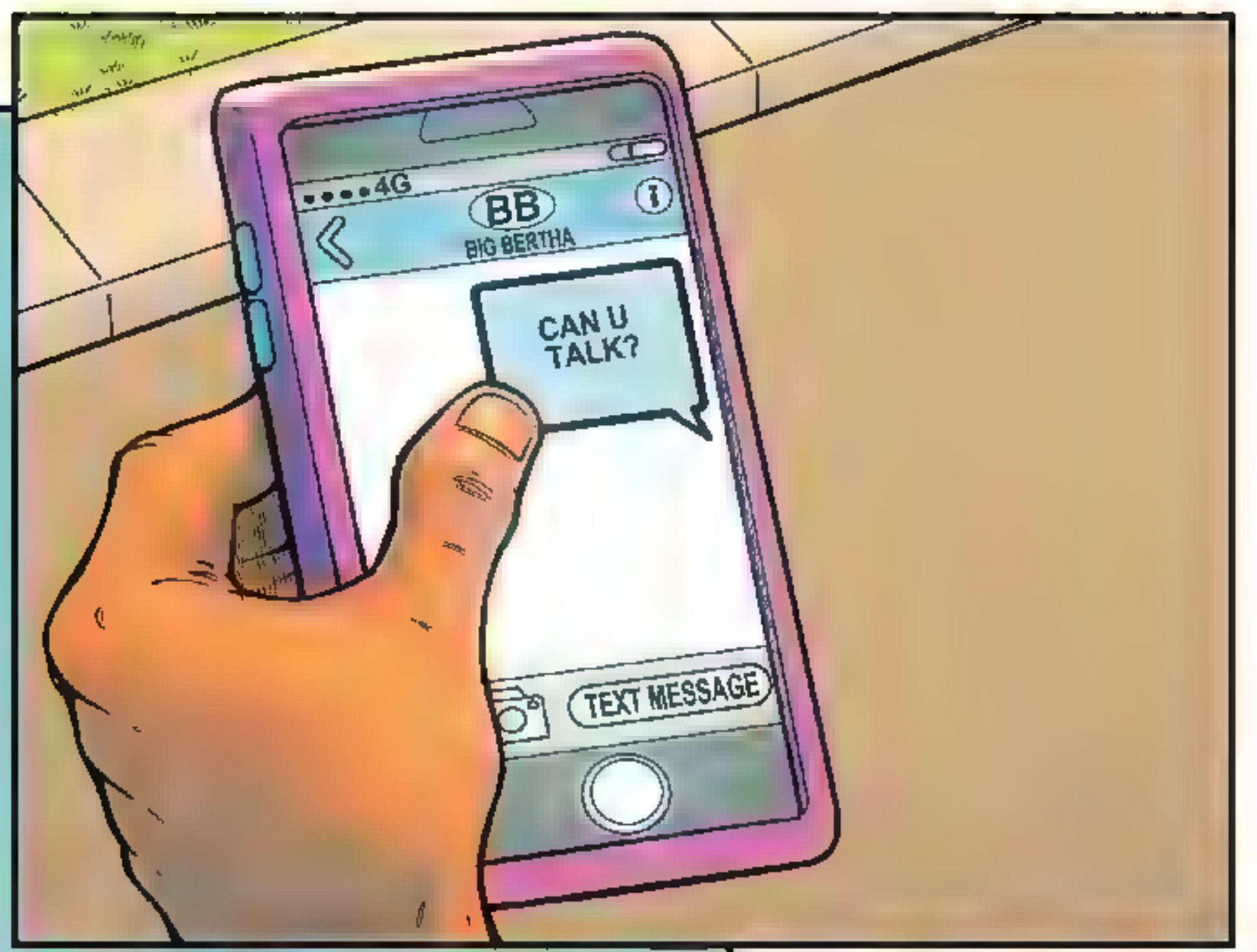
I SAID, OF COURSE THIS WAS A TRAP.

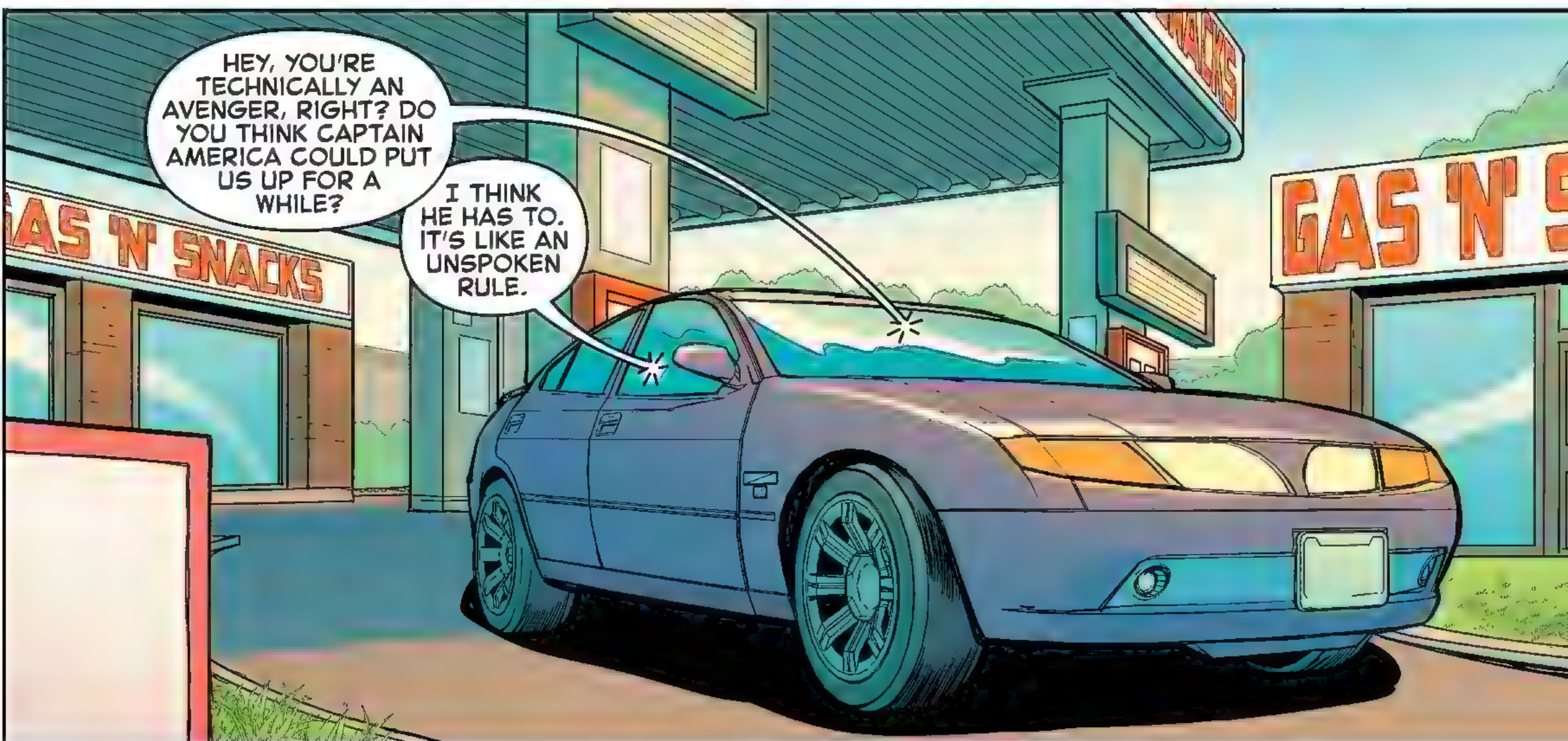
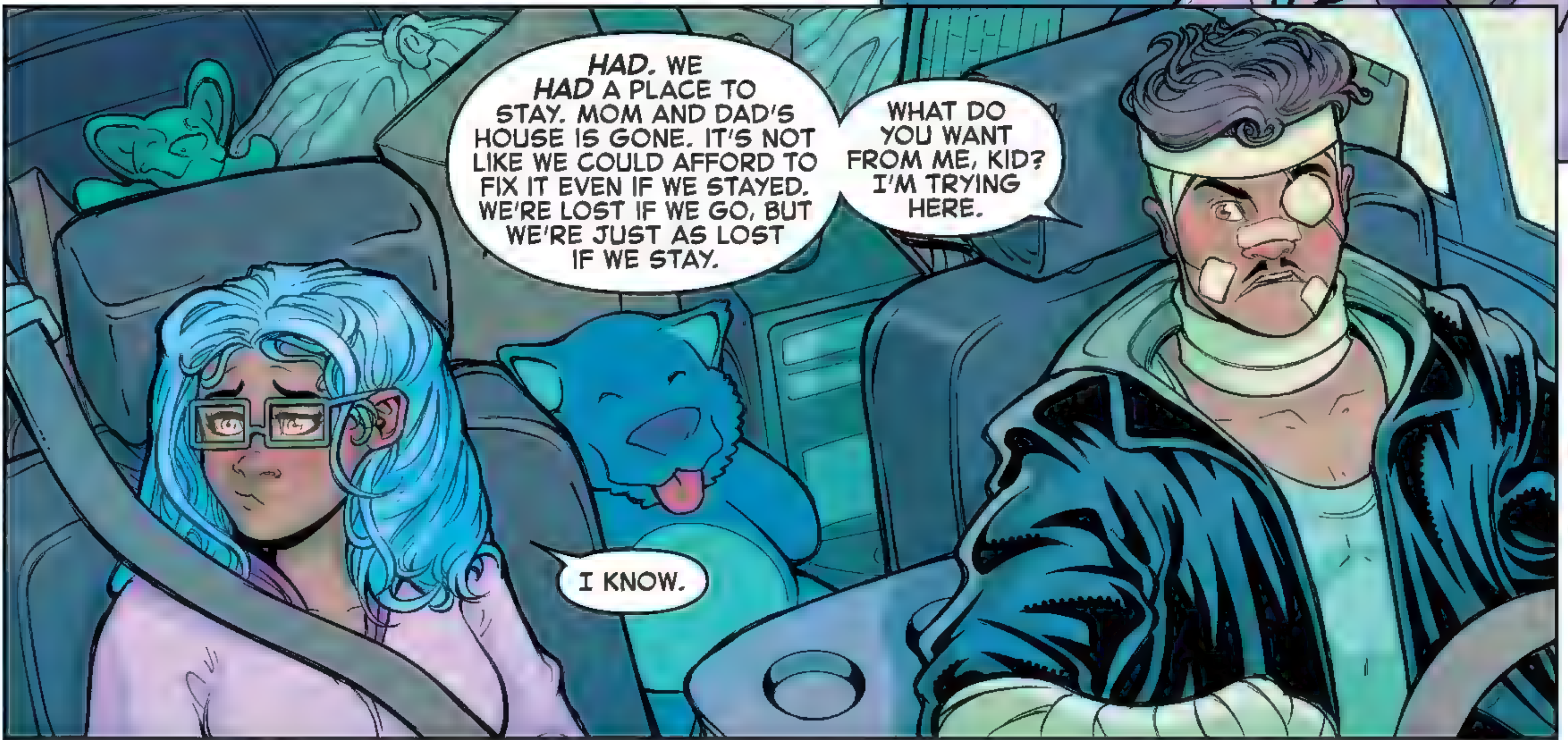
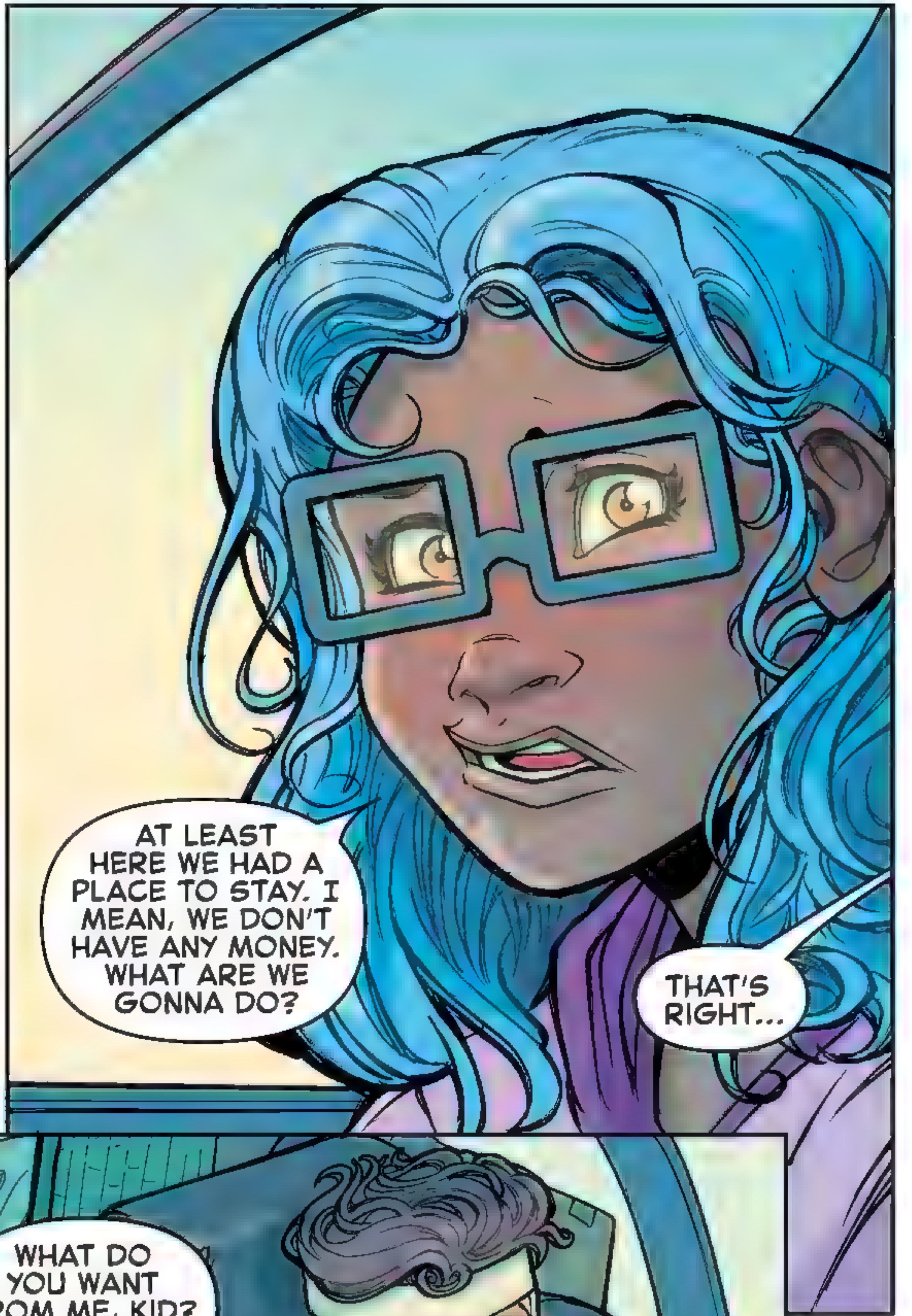
J-JEN? WHAT... WHAT...

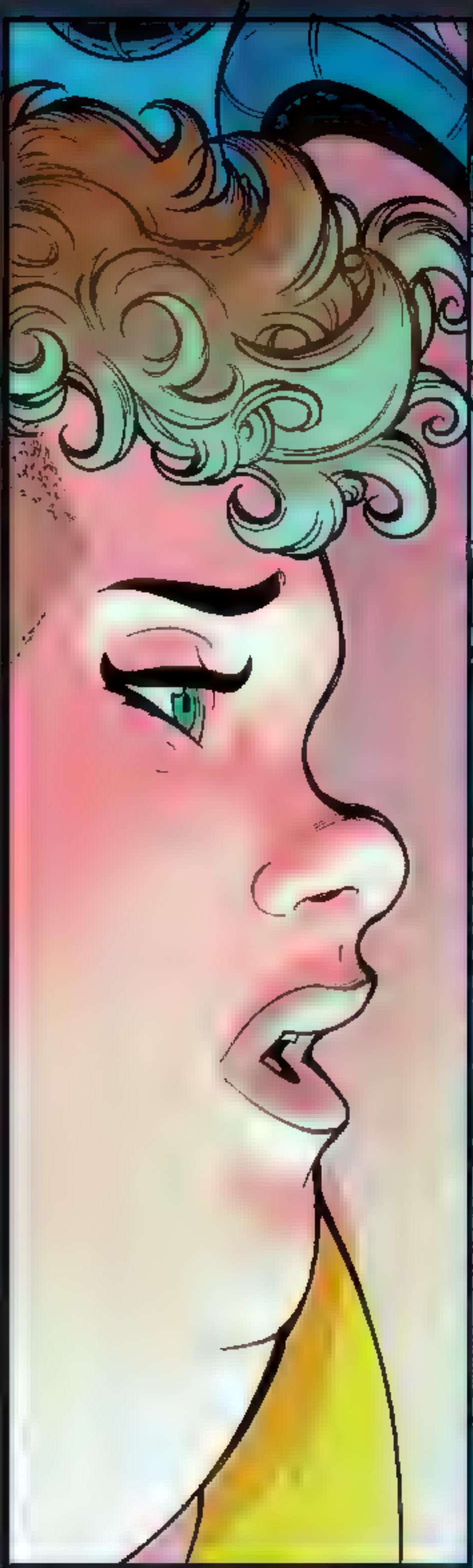


J-J-JEN. YOU MAGNIFFFICENT BIIIIIT--









GAAAAH!



UNFFFF!
COME ON!
GNNNH!

IT'S NO
USE.

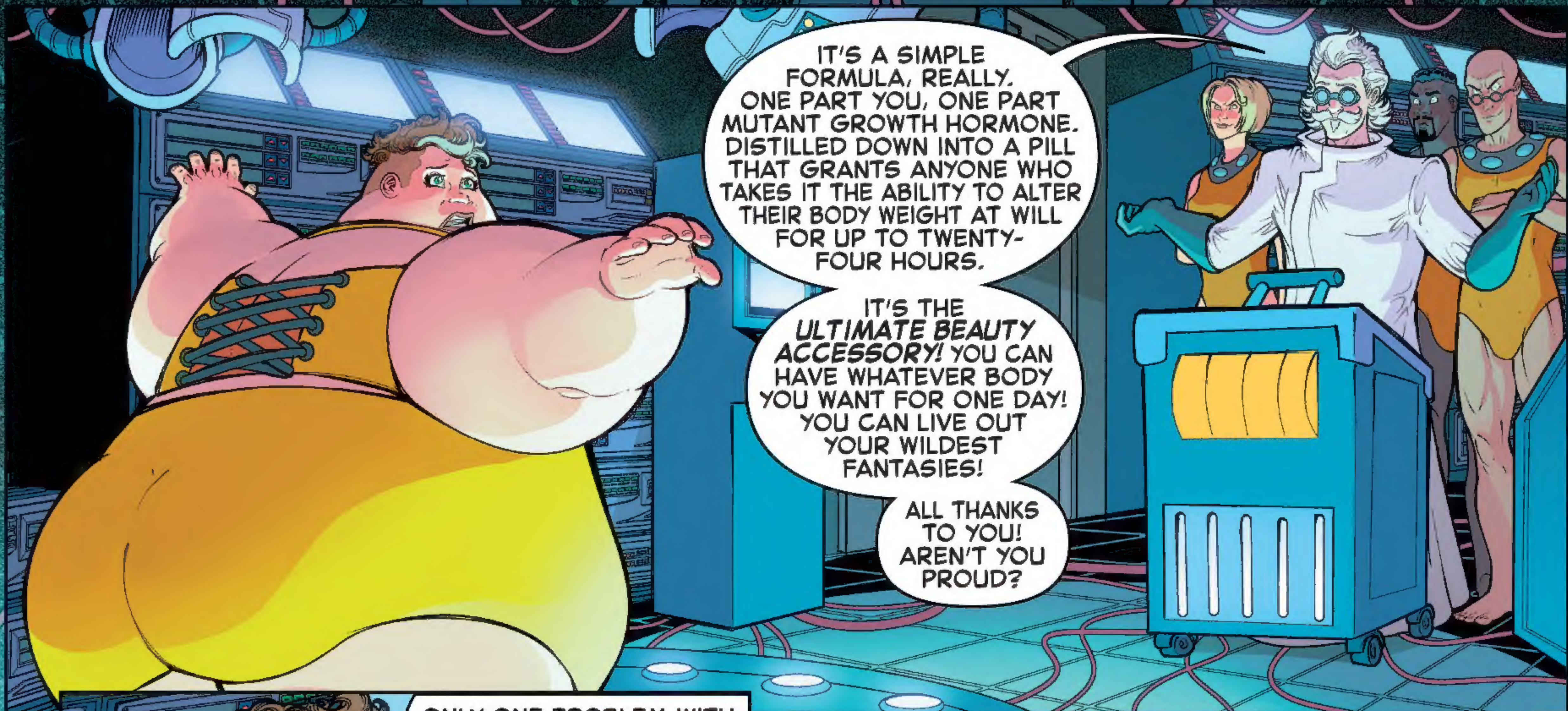
DR.
NOD?

BESIDES,
I'VE ALREADY
GOT EVERYTHING
I NEED FROM
YOU. IF YOU'RE
WILLING TO BEHAVE,
YOU'RE FREE TO
GO. THE
RESTRAINTS ARE
MERELY A
FORMALITY.

I DIDN'T
LIE TO YOU,
BERTHA. I NEEDED
YOU AND YOUR POWERS
FOR MY WEIGHT LOSS
SUPPLEMENT. IN FACT,
I COULDN'T HAVE
DONE IT WITHOUT
YOU!

WE'RE
GOING TO BE
RICH, MY DEAR.
YOU'LL GET YOUR
FAIR SHARE.
I KEEP MY
PROMISES.





IT'S A SIMPLE FORMULA, REALLY. ONE PART YOU, ONE PART MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE. DISTILLED DOWN INTO A PILL THAT GRANTS ANYONE WHO TAKES IT THE ABILITY TO ALTER THEIR BODY WEIGHT AT WILL FOR UP TO TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

IT'S THE **ULTIMATE BEAUTY ACCESSORY!** YOU CAN HAVE WHATEVER BODY YOU WANT FOR ONE DAY! YOU CAN LIVE OUT YOUR WILDEST FANTASIES!

ALL THANKS TO YOU! AREN'T YOU PROUD?



ONLY ONE PROBLEM WITH YOUR PLAN. THE PART WHERE I BEAT YOU SENSELESS AND SMASH UP YOUR WHOLE OPERATION.

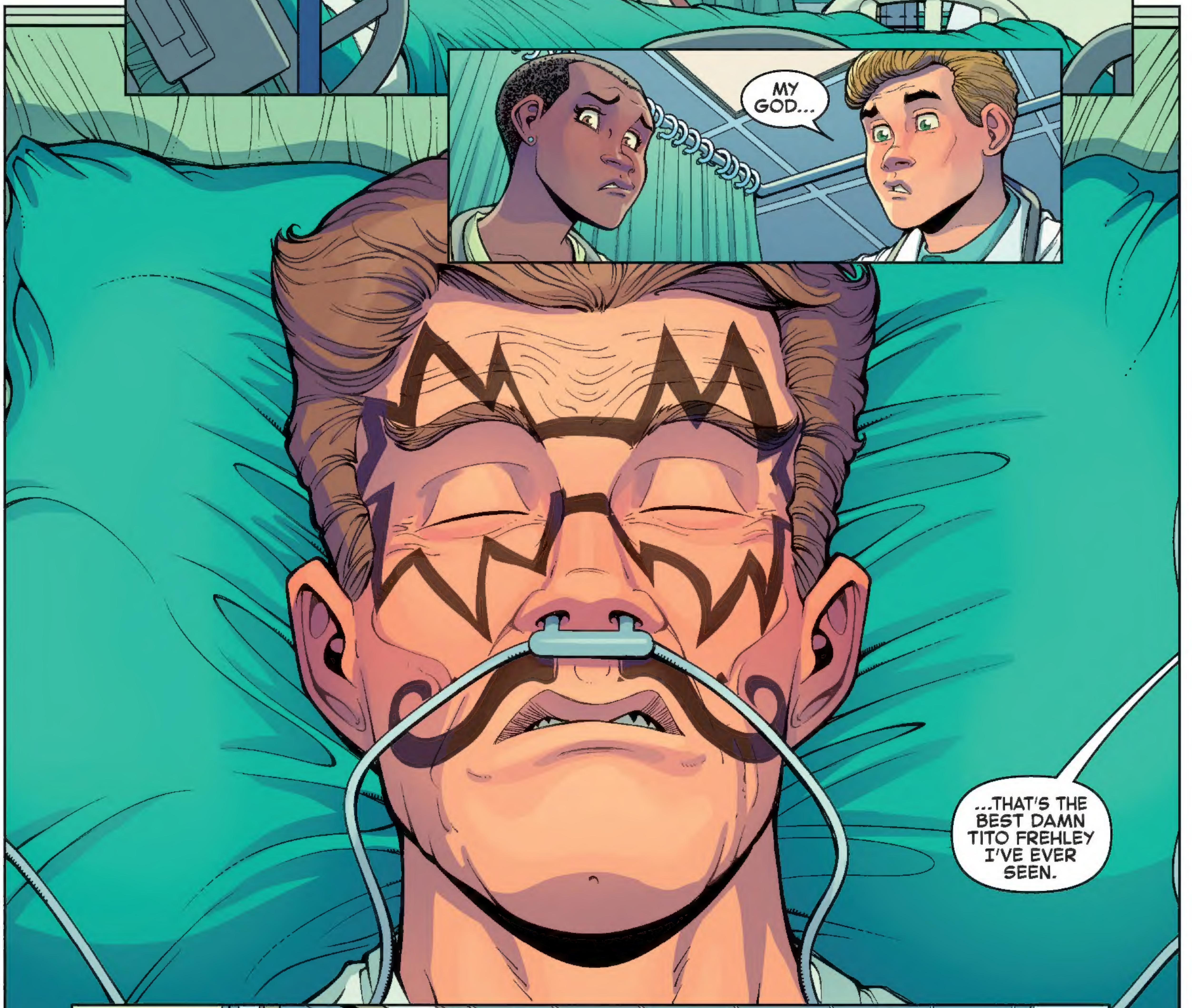
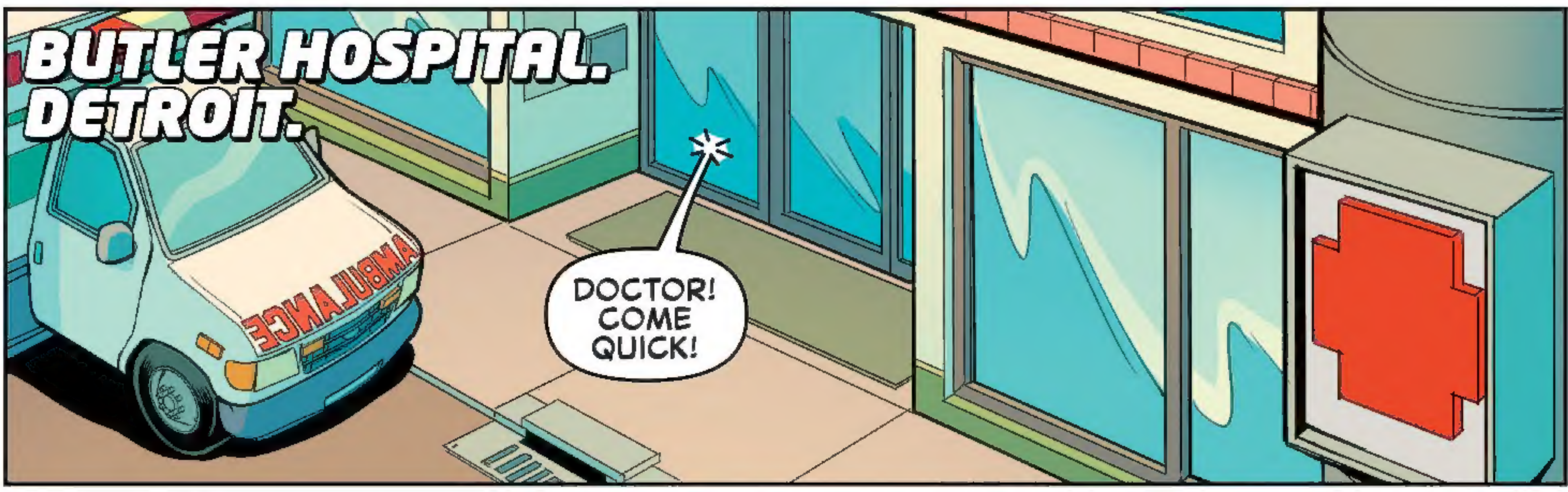
OH, GIVE ME A LITTLE CREDIT!



ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO...

...DR. NOD AND THE BOD SQUAD!





The Great Lakes Avengers

Send letters to
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
marked "Okay to Print"!



Okay, okay, we said we'd take anyone, but it turns out our writer and Great Lakes Avengers hiring director Zac Gorman is...a bit of a picky-pants? So we're still looking for new members! Let's see who we've got this week!

Dear Mr. Gorman,

Hello! I'm writing to express my interest in a continually open position as a member of the Great Lakes Avengers. I believe my very okay powers and access to a reliable, fuel-efficient vehicle make me an excellent recruit!

First, I'd like to highlight my power. I did not get my power from some freak accident in a laboratory, nor was I zapped by cosmic rays. Rather, I was born with the amazing ability to never get headaches! This fact usually agitates my human friends, but would be a great asset to the GLA, especially if they tangle with a villain with mental powers. It would also come in handy when answering phones or speaking at press conferences.

Secondly, I believe another land vehicle would be a great asset to the GLA. My Pontiac Vibe (which I'd rename "Advil") would be another tool to help the GLA fight crime. Currently, I'm one state below HQ, but close to the highway, so getting to Detroit wouldn't be a problem. Or I could run a regional office that sends cases to the GLA? The possibilities are endless!

Thank you for your consideration for this highly prestigious, cannon-fodder position in the Great Lakes Avengers!

Sincerely,
Nate Logan

I suppose it's possible to have a super-power that prevents headaches, Nate, but I'd like to take a moment to consider another possibility. What if you've ALWAYS had a headache? Perhaps you've had a headache so long that having a headache has become your default state!

Speaking of states, "one state below" can mean one of two things when referring to Michigan: Indiana or Ohio. I'm not going to say which one, but residency in one of those states immediately disqualifies you for membership in the Great Lakes Avengers. Sorry, but it's not up to me. It's in the bylaws.

Good day, Zac. I would like to toss my idiomatic hat into the ring (not my real one—I've lost too many good hats that way) in an attempt to bolster the ranks of the GLA. Among my numerous, but un-astounding, super-powers are the following:

1. Needless sesquipedalianism. This power to overuse long words demonstrates itself.
2. Information absorption. As a trivia junkie, it has come in handy in the past, but in recent years it seems to work best with comic books and animation.
3. Pattern recognition, especially

regarding odd typographical errors. For example, on the letters page of GLA #4, there were three instances where the letter pattern "fi" was mysteriously blanked out. What made this more odd is that they were not the only occurrences of that letter pattern. That's when I noticed that the 3rd, 7th and 11th occurrences of this pattern were the missing ones. After doing some research, I found a 7-11 just off the M-3 in Cadillac Square, which must be where the team gets their coffee.

If admitted to the team, I could be called The Insufferable Prat if it won't get me confused with Reed Richards.

Regards,
Ray Davis

I appreciate you're letter, Ray, but it's important too remember that random typos are just that...completely random. Cloes the spy books. Maybe take a vacation. They're are better things to do with your time than comnig up with nonsense theories!

Hello, I am here to tell you about my powers and name to, of course, join the Great Lakes Avengers. I am known as Dr. Boi. My name has absolutely nothing to do with my powers. At all. My power is to make any conversation awkward. Yes, it is VERY powerful. The GLA could use an asset like me. My powers do not stop there; in fact they get better. I have my own spider-sense. I get a very bad migraine and a mini anxiety attack when there is a conversation that needs "awkwardation." But not only that, I can remember things from years back that don't AT ALL matter. Like, for instance, "I put my pencil in a cabinet!" But I can't remember names. That is the amazing extent of my amazing powers. Amazing, right?

With all goofs, jokes and memes aside, I really like your comics. I'm from Michigan and I was so happy you made it take place in Detroit and I'm glad you brought back Mr. Immortal. He is my favorite. Thank you, and have a great day.

Malachi Blades
Lyon Township, MI

Dear Malachi "Dr. Boi" Blades,

Dr. Boi is a fine super hero name, but have you considered "Malachi Blades"? Or maybe that's the whole problem! With a name like Malachi Blades, it's fair to assume that everyone you meet suspects you of being an elite assassin. It's no surprise that people feel awkward when they think you might backflip through a window onto a speeding motorcycle at any moment! As far as your spotty memory goes, I assume that's probably a byproduct of the brainwashing that happened when you went through assassin school. It's probably normal.

Thank you for your letter, Malachi!

Dear Great Lakes Avengers,

My name is Sormo, a name I masterfully shortened from "sore mouth"—which is an unfortunate side effect of my super-

power. My power itself is that my teeth grow and shrink randomly and at their own will. Although this power only causes me pain, I've been thinking recently that if I were to bite someone, it may be a useful power in a fight. Please give me a chance to join your team—I have below-average fitness and am very comfortable wearing spandex! Side note: Could you recommend a good dentist in Detroit?

Charlie Cooke,
Brisbane, Australia

Dear Charlie "Sormo" Cooke,

I've got bad news and worse news. The bad news is that I'm afraid our roster doesn't have a slot right now for someone whose teeth grow and shrink randomly. The worse news is that I now have a new, horrific nightmare that will assuredly wake me up from sleep in the middle of the night, a cold flop sweat on my forehead, as I clutch desperately at my teeth to make sure they're still there and of a normal size.

Zac

Do you have a painfully mundane talent that qualifies you to be a member of the Great Lakes Avengers? If so, dang, use it to do some good...why are you here, even? send us your application! We will even take people who can just make beds real nice. That's an important life skill!

NEXT:



REVENGE OF THE BOD

